Voting of Demands for Grants.

President.—Now, we shall proceed with the consideration of the budget motions. With regard to the procedure in connection with the voting of grants some doubt was raised, the other day. I have had the opportunity of looking into the Travancore practice, and it is to this effect. The Government member rises and asks for the grant. He is careful to see that he asks only for the votable allotment. The form of a motion for a grant is "Sir, I move for a grant, not exceeding so many rupees, under Demand so and so, Public Works, or Education, &c.," and that motion being made, members bring to the notice of the House all reductions or cuts. Each member, proposing a cut, rises and says, "Sir, I beg to move the following motion to reduce the allotment, &c." That is the procedure in Travancore, and I think the same procedure may be followed here also, in regard to the grants heraſter to de voted.

Mr. MATHEW KOLADI VATAKKOT (*Kunnamkulam*).

A point of order, Sir. If we are following Travancore in this matter, I think we have better reason to imitate Travancore with regard to more substantial matters. Here, only one supplementary question can be put, whereas, in Travancore, more than one supplementary question can be asked.

President.—Is it so?

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

The Rule with regard to supplementary question is Rule No. 14. "Any member who has asked a question may put a supplementary question, for the purpose of further elucidating any matter regarding any answer given, and on the answer arising from the supplementary question, no further questions can be put." In some Councils all the other members are allowed the privilege of asking questions. But here, it is not allowed.

Dr. A. G. MENON (*Tuttamangalam*)

I am not aware of the Travancore procedure with regard to this. In Madras, that is the procedure. Anybody is allowed to ask supplementary questions. Any number of questions can be put. Here the Rules, restrict our right to asking only one question. Instead of 'a', 'one or more' ought to have been inserted.

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Mr. T. K. KRISHNA MENON (*Secretary to the Legislative Council*).

In Madras, the Rule is entirely different. We have followed the Travancore Rules, more or less.

Dr. A. G. MENON (*Tattamangalam*).

I never knew that. Nothing was mentioned in the Rules. I thought we are following our own rules

President.—Our Council Regulation and Standing Orders are, more or less, based on those of Travancore.

Dr. A. G. MENON (*Tattamangalam*).

I think it is based upon those of the Travancore and Provincial Legislative Councils.

Demand VI—Excise—Rs. 3-13 lakhs—(*continued*).

President.—We are engaged with Demand No. VI, Excise; we have done with the motion of Mr. Mathew to reduce the allotment under Excise by one rupee. The next motion is by Mr. M. K. Raman—to reduce the allotment under Excise by Rs. 10,000.

Mr. M. K. RAMAN (*Ezhuva South*).

In the face of the assurance that an Excise Committee will be appointed, and that the Superintendent will take care that the Excise Department will give effect to the principle of Prohibition, I do not think it necessary to press the motion.

Mr. V. B. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR (*Superintendent of Excise Revenue*).

Even now the aim of the Government is gradual Prohibition.

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

We are very glad to hear that.

President.—The matter will be thoroughly discussed by the Excise Committee.

The motion was, therefore, withdrawn with the permission of the Council. The whole Demand under Excise was passed by the House without any reduction.

Demand VII.—Stamps—Rs. 64 lakh.

Mr. A. K. VENGU AYYAR (*Secretary to the Diwan*).

Sir, I rise to move for a grant, not exceeding Rs. 53,312, under Demand No. VII—Stamps.

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